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STATE PARKS RECEIVE INFUSION OF OVER \$2.5 MILLION FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FROM PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Private donations for FY '06 hit \$1,667,068

Building on a successful first year, the Office of Public Private Partnerships (OPPP) announced today an additional \$1,667,068 from private sources – which will be matched with \$866,286 in public funds – to provide needed repairs and enhancements at state parks in fiscal year 2006. State funding for each of the projects is contingent upon confirmation of matching funds from the private partners in place by December 31, 2005.

Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), which oversees the OPPP, made the announcement today noting, "As the public agency which holds our state's parks, reservations and open space in trust, it remains our mission to protect these resources for future generations, but that responsibility must involve a partnership, and a shared commitment of funding from the private sector."

The Commonwealth's parks and open space system covers a daunting 10% of the state's entire land mass and includes more than 2,000 miles of trails, 600,000 acres of land, 28 watersheds, 3 rivers, 270 bridges, 1,450 miles of historic roads and parkways. The state's parks/reservation inventory also includes: 12 piers, 1,400 buildings, 42 fresh water beaches, 25 coastal beaches, 60 playgrounds, 30 campgrounds, 2 ski areas, 3 music sheds along with numerous skating rinks and swimming pools.

"Our parks and open spaces serve as public areas open equally to all residents and visitors. We are committed to building new models of stewardship and new strategic initiatives which develop a renewed sense of responsibility among public agencies and private partners to restore and protect the legacy of our state's parks," he added.

Betsy Shure Gross, executive director of OPPP, noted, "The network of partners who share the Governor's vision of providing world-class parks is continuing to grow, and these new

alliances are helping us to provide the residents of the Commonwealth better facilities, greater access and more recreational options.”

The following FY06 charts list the projects and partners under Urban Parks system – metropolitan Boston – with all the other regions of the state listed separately. Three projects listed contain carry-over funding from last year.

URBAN PARKS

FY '06 PRIVATE PARTNERS	OPPP\$	PARTNER\$	
Arborway Parkway, Jamaica Plain-(1) Jamaica Pond Assoc (2) Jamaica Hills Assoc (3) Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council, Public Service Comm (4) Arborway Coalition - <i>Boston</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000	Four groups working together to address the local access issues that were not resolved through the Arborway Master Plan.
Breakheart - Christopher P. Dunne Foundation - <i>Saugus</i>	\$2,500	\$2,500	Automatic handicap Door openers.
Cass Resource Management Plan - <i>Roxbury</i>	*\$100,000		
Charles River <i>Watertown</i> Dam & Bleachery Dam - Corp Wetlands Restoration Partnership	\$5,000	\$5,000	Educational signage at the Watertown & Bleachery dams.
<i>Chestnut Hill</i> Resource Management Plan	\$75,000		Partner's \$50,000 deposited 10/04.
City Square State Park - Friends of City Sq. Park - <i>Charlestown</i>	\$10,000	\$10,000	Visitor/interpretative center displays -City Square
Dale Street Park, <i>Roslindale</i>	\$5,000	\$5,000	Replace benches, total lot equip, repair fencing, & improve landscaping
Murphy Rink, <i>South Boston</i>	\$750	\$750	Apply "jet king" to ice at Murphy Rink for '05-'06 season.
Esplanade Association - Dock - <i>Back Bay</i>	^\$184,286	\$70,000	10/05 Deposit Urban Park Trust Fund.
Evans Field – <i>South Boston</i>	\$13,000	\$13,000	Work with DCR to renovate little field at Evans.
Hemlock Gorge Reservation - <i>Newton</i>	\$2,500	\$2,500	Upgrading the Stone Building.
Morrissey Boulevard between Kosciusko Circle & entrance to UMass/Boston – Columbia Point Assoc – <i>Dorchester</i>	\$50,000	\$50,000	Morrissey Blvd initial improvements (painting and one section of fence).
<i>Quincy</i> Homestead - National Society of the Colonial Dames of America	~\$85,000	\$15,000	Partner's \$70,000 deposited FY'05. Repair and upgrade kitchen, dining room and window sills.
Red Sox Foundation/Hill House/ Esplanade Assoc – Teddy Ebersol's Red Sox Field - <i>Beacon Hill</i>	\$175,000	\$1,335,193	7/05 Deposit Urban Park Trust Fund.
Rumney Marsh Gateway - <i>Saugus</i> Italian American Club	\$10,000	\$10,000	Various environmental permits.
The Publick Theatre/Christian Herter Park – <i>Brighton</i>	\$25,000	\$25,000	Creation of a running water source

The Riverway, Emerald Necklace - Emerald Necklace Conservancy <i>Boston</i>	\$15,000	\$15,000	Master planning for Riverway Section (Sears Rotary to Longwood Ave).
(Sub total Urban Parks)	\$768,036	\$1,568,943	

*Cass Resource Management Plan – (no match) \$100,000 carryover from FY05; funding was committed but not encumbered, or allocated.

^Esplanade Association - Dock - \$184,286 which represents \$102,000 in new funding for FY06 and \$82,286 carryover from FY05.

~Quincy Homestead - \$70,000 carryover from FY05; funding was committed but not encumbered or allocated.

OTHER STATE PARKS

FY'06 PRIVATE PARTNERS	OPPP \$	PARTNERS \$	
Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park – <i>Uxbridge</i>	\$2,500	\$2,500	Purchase of maple sugaring boiler for Maple Sugar Days.
Borderland State Park - Friends of Borderland – <i>North Easton</i>	\$2,500	\$2,500	Purchase & install a document preservation cabinet.
<i>Douglas</i> State Forest - Friends of Douglas State Forest	\$3,000	\$3,000	Enhance security to deter vandalism.
<i>Lawrence</i> Heritage State Park - Friends of Lawrence Heritage State Park	\$2,500	\$2,500	Repair Center's air conditioning system.
Maudslay State Park - Maudslay State Park Association – <i>Newburyport</i>	\$12,500	\$12,500	Phase II Spray Shed renovation, HQ garage renovation.
Moore State Park - Friends of Moore State Park - <i>Paxton</i>	\$250	\$125	Kiosk repair.
Nickerson State Park - Friends of Nickerson State Park - <i>Brewster</i>	\$50,000	\$50,000	Rebuilding the Contact Station destroyed by fire.
Walden Pond State Reservation - Friends of Walden Pond - <i>Concord</i>	\$20,000	\$20,000	Rehabilitation of the bathhouse.
Waquoit Bay Nat'l Estuarine Research Reserve-Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay- <i>Falmouth</i>	\$5,000	\$5,000	Interpretive & Trail Signage-guardrails & gates for North Quashnet.
(Sub total for other State Parks)	\$98,250	\$98,125	
TOTAL OF OPPP \$	\$866,286	\$1,667,068	TOTAL OF PARTNER \$